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11-29-01

Attorney Docket No. 1614.1186

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Jc978 U.S. PTO
09/942641
08/31/01



In re Patent Application of:

Hisashi OKHI, et al.

Application No.:

Group Art Unit:

Filed: August 31, 2001

Examiner:

For: STATUS DISPLAY CONTROL UNIT, ELECTRONIC EQUIPMENT AND STORAGE MEDIUM

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure provisions of 37 CFR §1.56, there is hereby provided certain information which the Examiner may consider material to the examination of the subject U.S. patent application. It is requested that the Examiner make this information of record if it is deemed material to the examination of the subject application.

1. Enclosures accompanying this Information Disclosure Statement are:
 - 1a. Form PTO-1449.
 - 1b. Copies of IDS citations.
 - 1c. An English language copy of search report(s) from a counterpart foreign application or a PCT International Search Report.
 - 1d. English language translation (complete or relevant portion(s)) attached to each non-English language publication.
 - 1e. Explanations of Relevancy of References (ATTACHMENT 1(e), hereto) for providing a concise explanation of each non-English publication.
2. In accordance with 37 CFR §1.98, a concise explanation of what is presently understood to be the relevance of each non-English language publication is

(Check appropriate Items 2a, 2b, 2c and/or 2d)

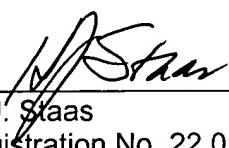
 - 2a. satisfied because all non-English language publications were cited on the enclosed "English-language version of the search report or action which indicates the degree of relevance found by the foreign office". (See MPEP 609, Minimum Requirements for an Information Disclosure Statement, Part A(3): Concise Explanation of Relevance, pp. 600-100 to 600-101, Rev. 1, Feb. 2000.)
 - 2b. set forth in the application.

- 2c. satisfied because an English language translation (complete or relevant portion(s)) is attached to each non-English language publication.
- 2d. enclosed as Attachment 1(e), hereto.
3. No admission is made that the information cited in this Statement is, or is considered to be, material to patentability nor a representation that a search has been made (other than search report(s) from a counterpart foreign application or a PCT International Search Report, if submitted herewith). 37 CFR §§1.97(g) and (h).

Respectfully submitted,

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ATTACHMENT 1(e)

EXPLANATIONS OF RELEVANCY OF REFERENCES	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	APPLICATION NO.
	1614.1186	
	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	
	Hisashi OKHI, et al.	
FILING DATE	August 31, 2001	GROUP ART UNIT

Japanese Reference AG corresponds to U.S. references AA and AB.

Japanese Reference AJ corresponds to European Reference AI.

All of the references fail to show or suggest an electronic equipment having a main display section, an auxiliary display section, buttons provided above and/or below the auxiliary display section, and a controller which display definitions or means of the buttons within the auxiliary display section at positions corresponding to each of the buttons depending on an operation mode of the electronic equipment.

FORM PTO-1449

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

LIST OF REFERENCES CITED BY APPLICANT

(Use several sheets if necessary)

ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.
1614.1186

APPLICATION NO.

FIRST NAMED INVENTOR
Hisashi OKHI, et al.

FILING DATE

August 31, 2001

GROUP ART UNIT

552641
10/09/94
31/01
10/09/01

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NO.	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUB-CLASS	FILING DATE
	AA	5,410,497	04/1995	Viletto			
	AB	5,475,626	12/1995	Viletto			
	AC						
	AD						
	AE						
	AF						

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

		DOCUMENT NO.	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUB-CLASS	TRANSLATION YES NO
	AG	6-43966	02/1994	Japan			X
	AH	9-26832	01/1997	Japan			X
	AI	0 886 204	12/1998	European Patent Application			X
	AJ	11-119875	04/1999	Japan			X
	AK						
	AL						

OTHER REFERENCES (INCLUDING AUTHOR, TITLE, DATE, PERTINENT PAGES, ETC.)

	AM	
	AN	
	AO	

EXAMINER

DATE CONSIDERED

EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.